in regard to the implementation of the first proposal.

Proposal to hand over Second Channel of Doordarshan to State Gvernments

244. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to hand over Second Channel of Doordarshan to State Governments;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Prasar Bharti (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Bill, 1989 has already been introduced in Parliament which provides for conversion of AIR and Doordarshan into autonomous organisations. In view of this, it is not felt necessary to hand over the Second Channel of Doordarshan to State Governments.

Outcome of recent Indo-Nepal talks

245. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what were the issues discussed during the Indo-Nepal talks at Delhi in February and what was the outcome thereof;

(b) whether any progress has been made on issues like trade and transit and complaints of discrimination against the people of Indian origin and Indian Nationals in Nepal; and

(c) what is Nepal's stand on supply of Chinese arms to Nepal in violation of Indo-Nepal treaty?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) to (c) The taks covered a wide range of subjects of mutual interest: trade, transit, economic cooperation, security perceptions, treatment of the nationals and cooperation in the field of industry, water resources etc. Progress was made towards a comprehensive solution of all outstanding problems.

It was agreed that during the next round of official talks work could begin on documents that would comprise a broad framework of the close and age old Indo-Nepal relationship, and strengthen it on an enduring basis.

Fire of telecom cables of Bambolina line in Goa

246. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the losses of crores of rupees worth telecom cables being set on fire at Bambolina line in Goa after it was pilfered, recently;

(b) what is the total loss estimated and what was the quantity of cables pilfered before it being accidentally set on fire; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to avoid such frauds in future and stage of investigation in this case?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c) A major fire broke out on 20th January, 1990 in the store godown at Bambolina Panaji. Detailed investigation are in progress. Information will be furnished regarding total loss suffered and steps taken after the investigation is completed.